

force consisted of a handful of military and civilian construction workers, as well as the local Guam Insular Guard and the Guam Militia. Hopes of defending the island ended in the early morning hours of December 10, 1941, when the island's governor surrendered his post and the island, thus making Guam the only American community to be occupied during World War II.

The Chamorros, the indigenous people of Guam, endured great hardships during the occupation as their captors forced them to work long hours in the fields, repair or build airfields and defense installations, and dig hundreds of Japanese shelter caves. But liberation was close at hand. Guam offered an ideal strategic position for the Allied forces, as it would provide a centralized location between the Japanese homeland and the Philippine Islands to launch long-range bomber attacks. By taking the Marianas Islands back, we would also be able to sever vital enemy supply lines, thus cutting off thousands of enemy soldiers and ending their effectiveness in the war.

The battle for Guam was fierce. Enemy forces continued to launch counterattacks despite their lack of supplies or hope of winning. But the Americans were just as determined and went to great lengths to complete their mission.

Chief of Staff General Dwight D. Eisenhower stated it best when he said:

"In a nation at war, teamwork by the whole people is necessary for victory. But the issue is decided on the battlefield, toward which all national effort leads. The country's fate lies in the hands of its soldier citizens; in the clash of battle is found the final test of plans, training, equipment, and—above all—the fighting spirit of units and individuals."

And it was the spirit of the Americans fighting on Guam that brought a quick end to organized resistance on the island as it was secured by the American forces on August 10, 1944.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim July 21, 1994, as the "50th Anniversary of the Liberation of

Guam." I call upon all Americans to observe this day with appropriate programs and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this thirtieth day of June, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighteenth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 2:20 p.m., June 30, 1994]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on July 5.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting a Treasury Department Report

June 30, 1994

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As required by section 511 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, FY 94-95 (Public Law 103-236), I hereby transmit the report prepared by the Treasury Department on expenditures from blocked accounts.

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Lee H. Hamilton, chairman, House Committee on Foreign Affairs, and Claiborne Pell, chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

Statement on the EPA Decision on Renewable Fuels

June 30, 1994

I would like to commend the Environmental Protection Agency for its decision to make renewable fuels a major ingredient in reformulated gasoline under requirements of the Clean Air Act. Today, we are making good on a longstanding commitment to a cleaner environment and a stronger economy. This decision offers tremendous potential to provide the U.S. with thousands of new jobs for the future.

The use of reformulated gasoline will help to improve the quality of the air in the Na-

tion's dirtiest cities. Furthermore, a greater use of ethanol and its derivatives could help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

I especially support the use of ETBE, a fuel derived from ethanol, because of its special environmental promise.

Relying on renewable fuels also presents a major opportunity to farmers and other members of rural communities to get to work helping America. The rule could boost demand for corn by 250 million bushels a year.

Again, I commend EPA on this important decision to use renewable fuels to help achieve the objectives of the Clean Air Act. I believe our economy and our environment can go hand in hand. This policy is good for our environment, our public health, and our Nation's farmers, and that's good for America.

Statement on Congressional Action on Health Care Reform

June 30, 1994

Chairman Gibbons and the Ways and Means Committee stepped up to their responsibility today and took a giant stride forward on the road to comprehensive health care for all Americans. I want to commend Chairman Gibbons for his leadership and longstanding dedication to quality health care for every American.

The Ways and Means Committee understands what the American people want. They want universal coverage. They want shared employer-employee responsibility. And they want costs controlled. Others pretend that piecemeal tinkering with the health care system will satisfy the American people. But the 78 percent of the public that supports universal coverage knows they are wrong.

The Ways and Means Committee joins two other committees which have approved bills that build on the current system of workplace-based insurance, providing quality and affordable care for working Americans. The real progress that is being achieved in these committees is proving the naysayers wrong.

In a mere few weeks' time, Congress and the Nation have made extraordinary progress in the fight for real health care reform. While the special interests will continue to try and

stand in the way of history, they will not succeed. The voices of doctors, nurses, hospitals, hundreds of thousands of large and small businesses, and American families must and will be heard. The Ways and Means Committee answered their call today. We must all answer the call this year. There is no turning back.

Statement on the Base Closure Commission

June 30, 1994

I would like to offer, on behalf of our Nation, my heartfelt thanks and appreciation for Jim Courter's important contributions in leading the 1991 and 1993 base realignment and closure reviews.

I am proud of the success of the Base Closure Commission during my administration. The base closure process has been non-partisan, very effective, and continues to be of the highest importance to our efforts to reduce unnecessary base infrastructure in order to keep our military forces ready and strong.

While serving as Chair to the Commission, Mr. Courter recommended base closures and realignments which will enable the Federal Government to save billions of dollars over the next several years.

I am grateful for Jim Courter's tenacity, hard work, and commitment to building a stronger economy, and I wish him the very best in his new endeavors.

Interview With Klaus Walther of ZDF German Television

July 1, 1994

President's Trip to Germany

Mr. Walther. Mr. President, what are your expectations in front of the first trip to the united Germany? You will have a speech in front of the Brandenburg Gate; the Wall has come down. What will your message be?

The President. Well, first of all, let me say it's an incredible personal honor for me to be able to go as the first President to a united Germany. One of the formative political images of my childhood was seeing President Kennedy stand there in Berlin at the